

[54] SPIROPYRAN COMPOUNDS OF
PIPERIDINE OR THIAZINE RINGS[75] Inventors: Robert J. Guglielmetti, Brest; Francis
Garnier, Champigny; Yves M.
Poirier, Brest; Gisele M. C. Petillon,
Briec, all of France[73] Assignee: Etat Francais represente par le
Delegue General pour l'Armement,
Paris, France

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[58] Field of Search 544/6; 546/17, 18

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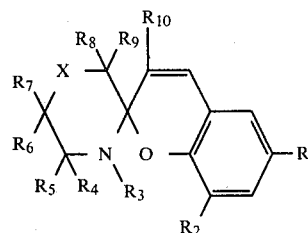
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Primary Examiner—Henry R. Jiles

Assistant Examiner—Bernard Dentz

Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Stevens, Davis, Miller &
Mosher

[57] ABSTRACT

The invention relates to spiropyran compounds. They
have the general formula (I):

in which:

X represents the CH₂ group or a sulfur atom; R₁ and R₂ represent electron donor and/or acceptor groups selected for instance from the group NO₂, COC₆H₅, CN, the halogens, the acyl substituents, alkoxy substituents, the hydrogen atom, the alkyl and mercaptoalkyl groups, the ethers of the formula CH₂OR, thioethers of the formula CH₂SR and amines of the formula CH₂NR₂ in which R represents an alkyl group; R₃ is a linear or branched alkyl group, having 1 to 18 carbon atoms, or an arylalkyl or alkenyl group.

—R₄, R₅, R₆, R₇, R₈ and R₉ have one of the meanings indicated for R₃ or represent, two by two, with the group in ortho position, a —(CH₂)_n— group in which n is a number between 5 and 10.

R₁₀ represents a hydrogen atom if X=S and if X=CH₂ a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group having 1 to 18 carbon atoms, an arylalkyl group in which the alkyl group has 1 to 5 carbon atoms, or an alkenyl group having 2 to 10 carbon atoms.

The compounds in accordance with the invention have photochromic properties and are suitable for the recording of information on transparent or opaque supports.

6 Claims, No Drawings